



Check out
the Boykin
Experience...

Page 4

An Evening of Elegance :
Prom pictures are here...

Pages 6-7

Seniors say
goodbye...



Pages 8-9

THE SABRES' BLADE

May 21, 1999

South Mecklenburg High School

8900 Park Road

Charlotte, North Carolina, 28210

Volume XXVI

DECA sends delegates to national conference

Dawson, Dizio, and Kimball recognized in awards session at the annual Career Development Conference in Orlando, Florida

By Nicole Ewing
Business Manager

The city of Orlando, FL was taken by storm when over 13,000 students came from all over the United States to compete in the 53rd annual DECA Career Development Conference. In order to compete in CDC, students had to qualify at their respective state's CDC. South Meck DECA brought eleven students, including Michael Ballenger, Katherine Cooney, Adam Dawson, Andy Dizio, Jason Edwards, Nicole Ewing, Kelly Flaviani, Rachel Hockfield, Jimmy Kimball, Laurel McKnight, and Melody Milroy. The trip was chaperoned by DECA adviser Ms. Melanee Duncan. "Initially, I was a little apprehensive about taking eleven high school students to Florida. But our group was the cream of the crop. I am

very proud of their behavior and professionalism," she said.

While most of the participants arrived in Orlando on Friday, April 23, South's DECA chapter postponed its arrival until early Sunday morning so they could attend this year's prom. They immediately rushed to take their 100 question comprehensive tests and continued in their competition the next day where they completed two marketing role play events. Lack of sleep did not seem to affect their performance; three members made it up on stage at the mini awards session Tuesday morning. Adam Dawson and Andy Dizio were recognized as top ten in their comprehensive exam. Third year national DECA veteran Jimmy Kimball went on to compete in the overall finals in the Food Service Marketing Management Level Event. "DECA has pro-

vided me a great opportunity to meet many new people and compete in an area in which I am interested," he said.

The conference was held in Orlando's impressive convention center. The facility was well organized to handle all of the events, an exhibition hall for sponsors, and the ceremonies. The opening, mini, and grand awards ceremonies were filled with spirited students, lasers, and lights. Each state also showed its support for the students of Columbine High School in Colorado in an emotional presentation of pledges and donations during the grand awards session on Tuesday night.

Competition was only one part of these Sabres' DECA experience. They also visited Sea World, Wet and Wild water park, Skull Kingdom's Haunted House, and Hard Rock Cafe.

There was plenty of free time for shopping and eating at tourist centers and restaurants. The group was able to stay an extra day to go to Disney World's Magic Kingdom. Sea World held a DECA-only dance, and students had a super time at 7up's "Underground Party" Super Dance.

"To have the opportunity to meet and compete against other bright, ambitious students from around the continent was exciting and enjoyable," said 1998-99 South Meck DECA president Jason Edwards. "I was proud to represent South Mecklenburg as a competitor and will never forget this experience," he said. The national conference gave every student an opportunity to meet many other DECA students and learn more about the professional business world. Every state, including North Carolina was well represented.

Three named Morehead nominees

By Jennifer Samuels
Staff Reporter

South Mecklenburg announced its three nominees for the 1999 John Motley Morehead Scholarship in early May. The nominees, Brendan McHugh, Melissa Ratliff, and Lindsey Wilfley, are all juniors.

The Morehead Scholarship is a full, four-year scholarship given annually to sixty incoming freshmen at UNC Chapel Hill. Competition is very fierce for this prestigious award.

Nominees for the Morehead Scholarship are selected based on four criteria: leadership, scholarship, moral force of character, and physical vigor. A strong commitment to service is necessary. Nominees must also demonstrate a strong ability to motivate and gain the trust of others. Because of the prestige of the award, nominees are always at the top of their class academically. Participation in athletics, particularly team sports, indicates a well-rounded person with good health.

"I am honored and will continue to work hard to represent South at the next level of competition," said Wilfley. "To me the Morehead symbolizes achievement and effort," she said.

"The Morehead Scholarship symbolizes all of my hard work throughout my school career," said Ratliff.

"I am highly honored to represent South Meck as a Morehead nominee," said McHugh. "I feel that this emphasizes the importance of academics, athletics, and community awareness," he said.

Drill team wins competition championship

Sabre Rifles and Blue and Gold Waves take Annual Queen City Drill Classic by storm during first appearance at event

By Cmdr French Harvey
Special to *The Sabres' Blade*

The South Mecklenburg High School Sabre Rifles and the Blue and Gold Waves won the Overall Championship at the Fourth Annual Queen City Drill Classic conducted at the Grady Cole Center in Charlotte on Saturday, March 26. In addition to the Overall First Place, they received First Place in the Armed Drill Division and were declared Best Navy Unit at the drill meet. They received four First Place, one Second Place, and four Third Place event trophies. This was the first appearance by the Sabre Rifle and Blue and Gold Waves at this drill meet and they won over Spring Valley High School AFJROTC from Columbia, S.C. who had won the drill meet the past three years.

The drill meet was hosted by AFJROTC of Independence High School. Twenty-nine JROTC units from Alabama, Virginia, Maryland, and North and South Carolina were in the competition. Former POW Colonel



Twenty-nine JROTC units from five states competed in the Queen City Drill Classic.

Quincy Collins, USAF (RET) addressed all of the cadets prior to the event.

South Mecklenburg NJROTC Drill Team Commanders were Cadet Commander Richard Armstrong, Cadet Lieutenant Commander Brett Emmerton, Cadet Lieutenant Marcus

Walton, Cadet Lieutenant Tory Geiger, Cadet Lieutenant Michelle Love, Cadet Ensign Camille Foster, and Cadet Master Chief Justin Sutton. Senior Chief Signalman Carl H. Posey USN (RET) and First Sergeant Tony Bryant USMC (RET) are the drill team advisers.

The Sabre Rifles entered the Armed Division, and the Blue and Gold Waves entered the Unarmed Division. Each competed in five events to qualify for the overall competition, the results of which led to the title of 1999 Queen City Classic Champions.

Index

Editorials.....	Page 2
A & E.....	Page 3
Features.....	Page 4
Technology.....	Page 5
Centerspread.....	Pages 6-7
Features.....	Pages 8-9
Faces in the Crowd...	Page 10
Sports.....	Page 11
Features.....	Page 12



Ethnic and religious intolerance are not things of the past

By Natalie Smith
Staff Reporter

Ethnic cleansing. The phrase seems too civilized to signify the action it indicates. Throughout history, ethnic cleansing has resulted in the abuse and slaughter of millions. The words "ethnic cleansing" often spark in people brutal memories of ethnic and religious wars from centuries past. Unfortunately, however, this atrocity continues worldwide even today. Global society has not progressed in the area of tolerance as much as most of us would like to believe.

The most horrendous example of ethnic cleansing is obviously the Holocaust. From 1938 to 1945 Adolf Hitler and his German army succeeded in the extermination of over six million Jews and other non-Germans. Those who survived the genocide were victims of torture, rape, and adverse living conditions. Likewise, the Native Americans were stripped of their homeland, tortured and systematically murdered by the European settlers beginning in the late 1400's. Even the Crusades during the Middle Ages can be used as an example of the mass killing that results from re-

ligious intolerance.

Most of us acknowledge and lament the wholesale destruction in each of these instances and others like them. However, we have convinced ourselves into believing that such horrors are merely phantoms of the past and do not exist today. This is incorrect. Ethnic and religious intolerance continues and will continue to plague the world.

The most recent example of ethnic cleansing is that which is taking place in Kosovo. For centuries the ethnic and religious differences within the country have resulted in the killing of thousands. Others have been driven from their homes by police, separated from their families and forced to live in camps with no food, clothing, or shelter. The wars in Albania and Kosovo have recently intensified and are clearly a repetition of history.

The world has advanced in many ways since the Middle Ages and even since World War II. Our progress in the area of tolerance still needs attention. The first step is realizing that this is a problem. Nothing can be done about this situation until society acknowledges that it exists.

Memories prove that goodbye is easier said than done

By Andrew Buchert
Editor

Four years ago when the class of 1999 first set foot on the South Meck campus, we had no idea of the vast academic pursuits, extracurricular activities, and social experiences in which we would take part during our days as a Sabre. In looking back over these past four years, not only have we gained considerably more knowledge, but we have also participated in activities that were both educational and rewarding as well. We've had the opportunity to meet many new people, and we have formed strong, lasting friendships.

One of the most important aspects of high school is personal growth. Not one of us is the same today as we were on that first day of our freshman year. Chances are students

won't remember everything they studied in high school. But what will stay with them will be the successful projects, encouraging words from peers and teachers, and mistakes made along the way.

We have grown emotionally as we have formed new friendships. As the famous lines go, "Some people come into our lives and quickly go. Some stay for a while and leave footprints on our hearts. And we are never, ever the same." Every person has affected us in some way, whether we realize it or not.

Graduation is a time of joy and a time of sadness. Leaving behind all that we thought we disliked about South will be easier said than done. We'll be surprised how many wonderful memories we will always have to look back on from our four years at South.

Media unfairly blamed in Littleton tragedy

By Jennifer Samuels
Staff Reporter

There is no doubt in my mind that the school shooting on April 20, 1999, in Littleton, Colorado, was a tragedy. Thirteen people were killed and many more wounded. In the days following the attack, much attention was focused on who was to blame for the incident. Many people, seeking an immediate answer, quickly turned to violence in the media as a cause, instead of looking closer to home - the place where the real answers lie.

The initial scapegoat for the Littleton tragedy was violent movies and music. Especially notable was the movie *The Basketball Diaries*, which features a scene in which Leonardo DiCaprio's character goes on a shooting spree in his high school. He was wearing a black trenchcoat, as were the killers. Another piece of violent media blamed was the computer game Doom, in which players shoot people to gain points. Marilyn Manson was also unfairly blamed, even though the killers did not listen to his music. He was an easy target because of past controversy. However, none of these things can bear the weight of responsibility alone. It is not only unfair, but grossly negligent, to assume that a person does what they do because of what they see.

Many studies have suggested that people's personalities are genetically programmed. Thus, people who grow up with violent tendencies have most likely had these tendencies all their lives. It takes a specific environment for these violent urges to manifest themselves in the form of self-destruction. More than the media, a person's home life develops who they are. It must be realized that no one really knows what went on in the homes of the Littleton gunmen. However, there is a strong possibility that the gunmen felt insecure, per-

haps stemming from the attention (or lack of), that they received. Had the killers been nurtured, perhaps they would not have had the opportunity to develop and act on their urges. This is also an instance of parents not paying attention. What kind of parents do not notice when their children are building bombs in their garage and stockpiling an arsenal of lethal weapons? Neighbors complained of loud noises, later found to have been the breaking of glass to be put into pipe bombs. Why were these teens' parents not as observant as their neighbors? When strangers pay more attention than family, there is a problem.

Children can be very cruel. The "politics" of high school are comparable to those of the nation's capital. Once a person is branded uncool or different (the kiss of death for a high school student trying to fit in), he has no chance. However, the Littleton killers had found a group to hang out with. Whatever they believed, no matter how negative or wrong it may seem, they were entitled to their own opinion. The other students in school had no right to make fun of them for being different. People who make fun of others usually do so because of some inadequacy they see within themselves. By contributing to the anger that the killers felt, the students at Columbine High School did not realize the damage they were doing.

I am not trying to lessen the impact of the terrible event that occurred in Littleton. It is a horrible tragedy, and the two teens responsible deserve whatever portion of the blame they receive. They killed people, an unforgivable crime. However, the ignorance of people who place the blame for such incidents on violence in the media needs to be contradicted. After all, millions of people play Doom and have seen *The Basketball Diaries* - but how many go on shooting sprees?

Quick Take on Opinions

An absence of honor

Copying homework is a big deal, as is cheating on a test. High school shortcuts don't evolve into morally sound adults. Studies show them continuing their habits in college, graduate school, and employment.

Students want to be successful and happy. But if they are able to excel without honor and integrity, they take the time and effort saving shortcut.

Cheating has replaced integrity, and only an enforced policy will compel students to realize that honor, not deceit, yields success and genuine happiness.

Jay Parsons
The Hoofprint
Myers Park High School
Charlotte, NC

Remediation plan not helpful

The students who wind up failing are probably too busy or too lazy to go home at night and do their homework or ask for assistance from the teacher during class. If students didn't process the information the first time throughout the first semester, why are they going to bother to learn it in two hours for only two days a week?

What makes the four hours a week an even bigger waste of time is that the very set of kids who don't want to be there still don't care about changing their grades. Wherever there are kids who don't care comes disrespectful behavior. After students have deemed themselves horrible at a subject, it is very unlikely that they will have a productive time in class anyway.

Jamie Duncan
The Butler Echo
David W. Butler High School
Matthews, NC

Teens: The most sleep deprived group in our society

Studies show that teens are more naturally inclined to stay up late at night and sleep later in the morning than other segments of society.

A handful of high schools are beginning the school day an hour later than normal to give the many sleepy students a chance to wake up before they start their rigorous student schedule. The experiment is based on a growing belief among numerous researchers and educators that too many teenagers are not receiving the correct amount of sleep to reach their optimum level of learning. Studies also note that teen drivers are involved in more sleep-related accidents than any other segment of the population.

Gabriel Peoples
Pawprints
Burns High School
Lawndale, NC

Staff o' Sabres

Editor-in-Chief
Andrew Buchert

Sports Co-Editors

J. T. Crook
Nathan Morabito

Business Manager

Nicole Ewing

Centerspread Editor

Megan McKnight

Photographers

Walter Boyle
Chris O'Connor

Adviser

Mrs. Jerry Berry

Staff Artist

Laura King

Reporters

Jessica Ambrose
Jason Nark
Jennifer Samuels
Natalie Smith
Catherine Traphagan
Larisa Yasinovskaya

The Sabres' Blade staff will accept any and all letters, articles, editorials, etc., but cannot guarantee publication. We reserve the right, however, to edit any material for obscenity, misinformation, or other necessary corrections. All opinions expressed in The Sabres' Blade are those of the individual writers and not the staff as a whole. If you have any questions, please feel free to come by B-10.

An Evening of Culture: Planting the Seeds of Life

Event features performances by talented minority students

Natalie Smith
Staff Reporter

South Meck celebrated its annual Evening of Culture on May 7, 1999. The occasion was sponsored by PISCES and featured enriching performances by some of South's most talented minority students. The purpose of the festivity was to demonstrate talent and celebrate cultural heritage. Presiding over the event were Ms. Jacqueline Muse and Ms. Elise Phillips, both active members of PISCES.

This year's Evening of Culture emphasized the theme "Planting the Seeds of Life" and focused on the seven principles of life. The idea was taken from an African legend entitled "A Celebration of Principles." The

legend goes as follows:

"One cosmic night in ages past, the council of Elders called forth the youth of the future. 'Behold, we give you seven seeds.' 'We do not wish to form,' said the youth. Then the Elders explained, 'Wherever you go, sow these seeds and you will reap the best from life.' The Elders are the traditions of Africa. We African Americans are the youth, and the seven seeds are the seven principles of life. We believe that the values reflected in the seven principles should be a part of everyone's daily life experiences."

The seven principles of life are Purpose (Nia), Self-Determination (Kujichagulia), Creativity (Kuumiba), Collective Work and Responsibility (Ujima), Unity

(Umoja), and Cooperative Economics (Ujamaa). These principles were exemplified in the performances of the evening.

Act I included a string quartet, singing, dancing, and a stirring recitation by Rhonda Gray, Marja Franklin, and Dena King of the poem "What If We Are Black Women?"

Features of Act II were a tap dance routine by two of South's lettergirls Samone Williams and Pysa Davis, a vocal/piano performance by a Taurean Walker of a song he wrote himself, as well as the playing of the *Titanic* theme song. Act II also included the recitation by Christopher Moore of the poem "The Revolution Will Not Be Televised".

Act III highlighted A Mother's Tribute. This part of

the program featured recitations of "Ain't I A Woman," a speech given by Sojourner Truth at the first Women's Convention, and "Mother to Son" (also known as "Life for Me Ain't Been No Crystal Stair"), a poem by Langston Hughes. An especially delightful part of Act III was a vocal performance by Coach Troy Gaston and Mrs. Barbara Miller, with piano accompaniment by Mrs. Miller.

Act IV of the Evening of Culture featured a piano recital by one of South's accomplished pianists. The miniature recital included "Fur Elise," "Moonlight Sonata," and "Maple Leaf Rag". Also in Act IV was a vocal performance by another staff member, Mr. Ron Walls, of "When a House Is Not A Home". Act IV also featured

Latin dancing.

The final act of the Evening of Culture was highlighted by a performance by the South Meck Gospel Choir. Also in Act V were a dance routine and three rap groups.

The Evening of Culture is presented by PISCES, an organization for parents of minority students who are concerned about the welfare of their children. PISCES was formed in the 1992-93 school year by four women who wanted to establish a group in which parents could discuss issues relevant to their children and take action. PISCES has established and participated in many other programs and activities including tutoring, the Black History program, and the PISCES scholarship.

Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools

1999-2000 Calendar

July 1999						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

January 2000						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

August 1999						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

February 2000						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

September 1999						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

March 2000						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

October 1999						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

April 2000						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

November 1999						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

May 2000						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

December 1999						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

June 2000						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

1st Quarter-41 days
Begins: August 16, 1999
Ends: October 13, 1999

3rd Quarter-51 days
Begins: January 4, 2000
Ends: March 16, 2000

180 School Days
20 Workdays
10 Annual Leave Days

2nd Quarter-40 days
Begins: October 18, 1999
Ends: December 17, 1999

4th Quarter-48 days
Begins: March 20, 2000
Ends: June 2, 2000

10 Holidays
220 Total Days

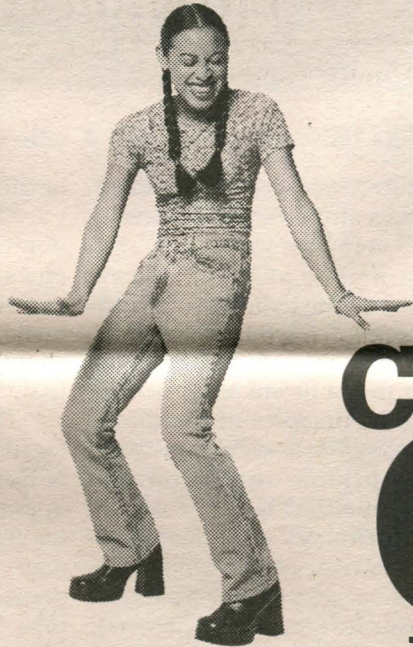
Required Workdays:
See Attached

Makeup Days
February 21
March 17
April 24
April 18

July 5 is a holiday for 12 month employees only.

If four days are needed, April 24 will not be used.

Levi's



You've never bought jeans
this way before
because this time
you tell us
how to make them!

check it out!
Now it's super easy

to create your own Levi's® jeans.

You choose the look, the fit, the color, even the fly.

Belk at Carolina Place Mall

You can find the Levi's® Original Spin™ shop on the upper level in the young men's area, but it's most definitely for everyone! 704.543.9888

Come in and check out Original Spin™ jeans.

Get a free CD of new music just for taking a test drive through the program!

Levi's®
Original Spin™
create
your own



©1999 Levi Strauss & Co. All rights reserved. No purchase necessary for CD offer. CD's available while supplies last.

The Sabres' Blade congratulates Sabre baseball on their second consecutive conference championship.

Teacher Spotlight: "The Boykin Experience"

Jim Boykin highlights his psychology and sociology lectures with his own wacky stories and experiences

By Andrew Buchert
Editor

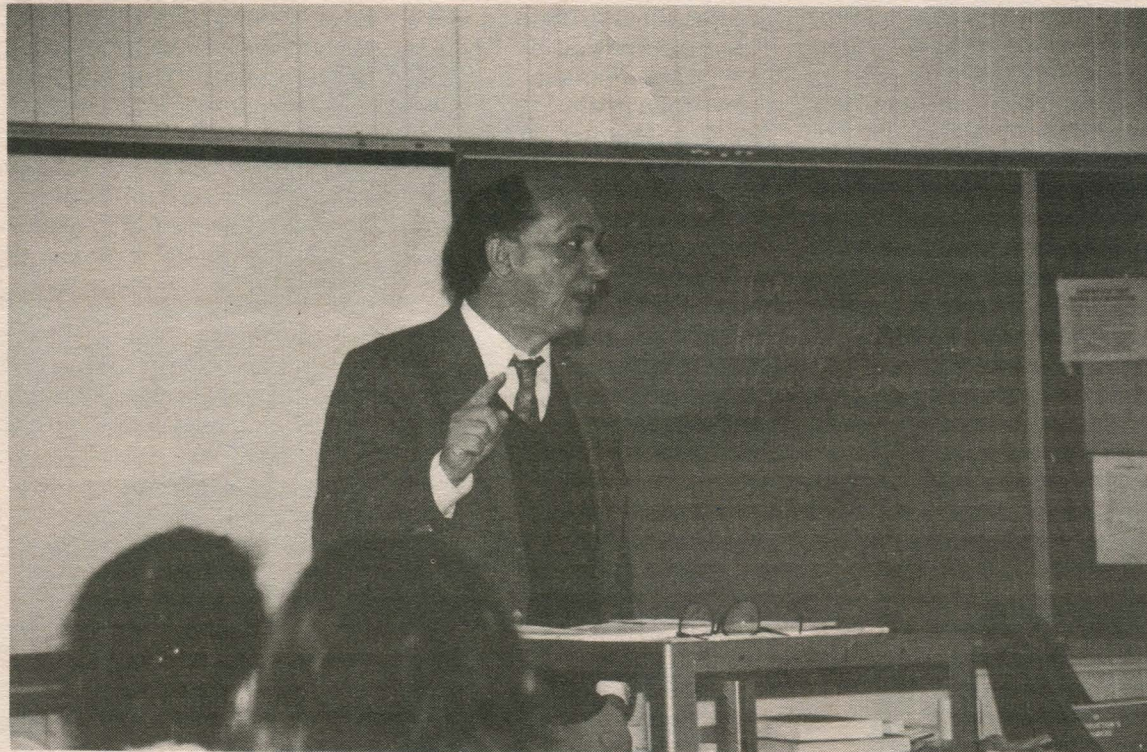
Students in Mr. Jim Boykin's psychology and sociology classes are familiar with their teacher's story of the ghost that roams the halls of South Meck. Back in the mid-1970s, Boykin happened to be eating a bologna sandwich when he looked out of his classroom window and saw a construction worker near the greenhouse fatally injured in an unfortunate accident. "From then on I've had an aversion to bologna," said Boykin. "I can't even stand being around the smell of it [bologna]," he said.

"About a year later, some kids were talking about this guy on campus who looked odd and did strange things," said Boykin. When the students described the man to Boykin, their description matched that of the man who had been killed, all the way down to the plaid shirt and aluminum helmet.

"But we have a lot of construction work done on South's campus, so it really could have been a coincidence," said Boykin. "Except this guy seems to show up about every three or four years," he said.

Boykin is famous amongst his students for his stories. In fact, he says that he, "owns about a million of them." Boykin began teaching at South in the late 1960s, after teaching general social studies courses for two years in a junior high school. When he transferred to South he began teaching semester courses in psychology and sociology. This year he has also begun teaching AP Psychology.

In his more than thirty years at South, Boykin has been witness to the effects of some of the



Walter Boyle/Staff Photographer

Students and faculty members alike have often wondered, who is the real Mr. Boykin.

most distinct cultural changes in the second half of the twentieth century at the high school level. He went through the "preppy" period of the mid-1960s, and then the "hippie" counterculture that followed. "Toss in the Vietnam War and the anti-Vietnam War protests on campus and it became very exciting, just fascinating," said Boykin.

For Boykin, however, looking back through the various cultural changes in the past thirty years is like, "comparing apples to oranges. Each generation has its own way of doing things," he said, "and I don't really think that you can say that things were better then. It's the circumstances and the environment," said Boykin.

Interacting with students fuels Boykin's love of teaching.

"The give-and-take, the banter between students and myself is why I enjoy the classroom," he said.

In teaching psychology and sociology, Boykin tries not only to use scientific studies to reinforce the rote learning of the various principles of the disciplines, but he also "infuses" his "perception" and what he thinks into the lessons.

Psychology and sociology students associate Boykin's class with the wacky stories from the past that he uses to reinforce his lectures. In fact, some students have even accused Boykin of making up his stories. "Over the years it has become difficult to determine what is fantasy and what is reality," said Boykin. "After a while you don't know if a story really did

or didn't happen."

"Students will say that they don't believe one of my stories, and then they go look for the answer. Generally, they come back and say 'I didn't know that!' and 'How did you know that?'" said Boykin.

The dated sixteen millimeter films also make up a portion of Boykin's notoriety. One film in particular, a sixteen millimeter from 1971 called *Acid*, always seems to fascinate his students. "I keep saying each year that I'm going to convert it [Acid] to VCR format, since it's starting to fade," said Boykin. "I have to preserve it somehow for future students," he said.

Most people associate psychology with studying various personality disorders, but the psychology field encompasses

much broader subjects as well, such as sociology and criminology. "Psychology and sociology give students a better understanding of human behavior, and, therefore, they can help resolve conflicts on a day-to-day basis," said Boykin.

"With a basis in psychology and sociology and with a knowledge of the principles of human behavior, you can almost adjust your attitudes toward people," said Boykin. "You can learn how to recognize certain attitudes or how to project an image that you want to project," he said.

Boykin is proud of the fact that he has been the F-building fire marshal for the past five years. "I would say that probably at the end of my tenure here at South they'll put a statue of me up in the courtyard with a fireman's hat on," he said.

Since he generally likes to remain somewhat of a mystery, perhaps the biggest question in the minds of students and faculty members alike is, who is the real Mr. Boykin. "Is the real Mr. Boykin the personality that I project here [at South] or is it another one that I project when I get home?" he said. "Do I go home, open the closet, get out my old hippie clothes, put on blue jeans, put beads on, and go into a yoga stance?"

"I would describe myself as difficult to understand, eccentric, outlandish...but probably none of those," said Boykin.

"But I've had fun here [teaching at South], and it's been interesting," said Boykin. "I've interacted with students and hopefully I've done what I'm supposed to be doing, and that's to impart knowledge and to get students to enjoy psychology and sociology," he said.

Miller in competition for Teacher of the Year award

Barbara Miller has been selected as one of six finalists in the Harris Teacher of the Year selection process. The other finalists are from Vance High School, Quail Hollow Middle School, Carmel Middle School, and Elizabeth Lane Elementary.

The selection process involves a principal's recommendation, recommendations from colleagues and parents, a portfolio reviewed by teachers, administrators, community leaders, and parents from other schools, and an interview by the selection panel. The portfolio of each finalist will then be re-

viewed a second time and another round of interviews will be held in order to select the final Teacher of the Year choice.

Miller, who has taught English and Debate at South for fourteen years, has also won the Rachel Roberts Coaching Award, two Diamond awards for coaching excellence from the National Forensic League, and a number of other awards. She has been inducted into the Burford Forum for Time Honored Coaches and has also been recognized in *Who's Who Among American Teachers* in 1994 and 1996.

*Congratulations to Beta Club,
Club of the Year Award winner
for the second consecutive
year!*



Walter Boyle/Staff Photographer

Seven South Meck faculty members are retiring at the end of this school year. Pictured are (back row, from left) Wayne Schultz (30 years), Gerald Bartholomew (30 years), Harvey Morris (29 years), (front row, from left) Jane Bartholomew (30 years), Jerry Berry (39 years), Gene Wallace (30 years), and Judy Russo (32 years).

Family and consumer economics is more than just a cooking class

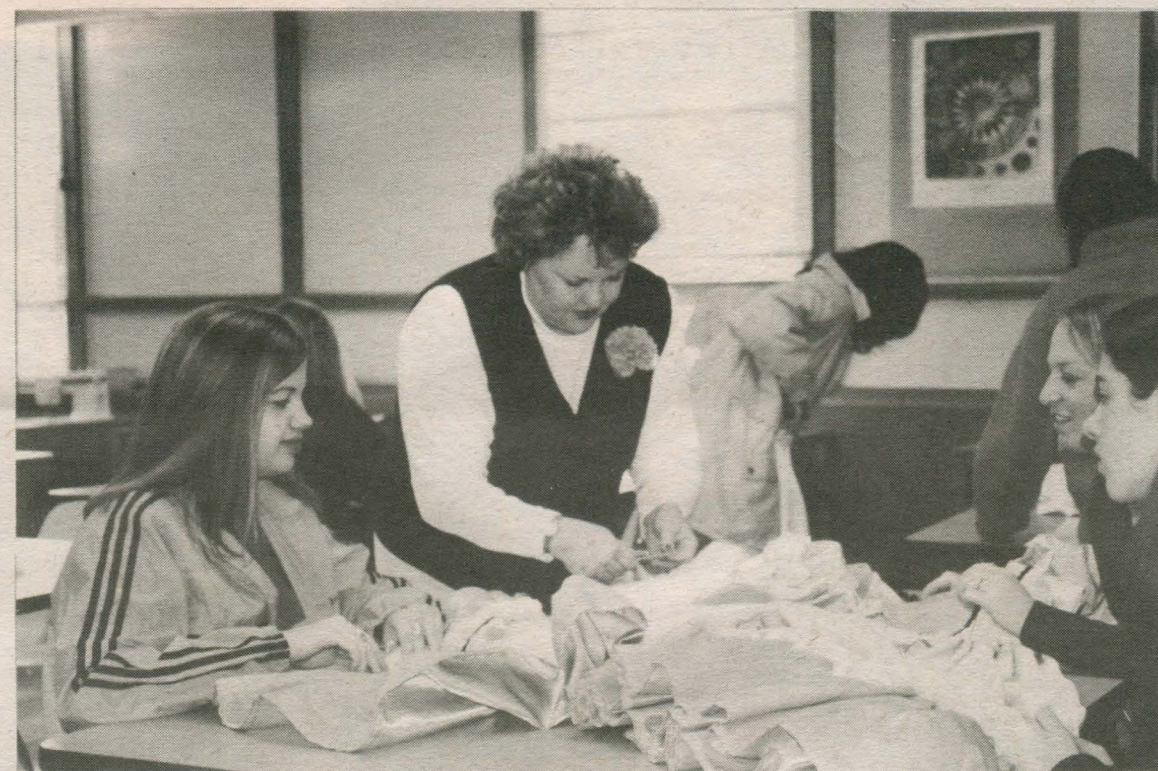
By Jessica Ambrose
Staff Reporter

Family and consumer economics, more commonly known as home economics, is offered to students at South in a variety of classes. Each class provides unique opportunities for students to explore the many different aspects of this field.

Emphasis is placed on several areas of family and consumer economics at South, including Foods and Nutrition, Culinary Arts, Child Care and Development, and Apparel Design. Each department designs its own curriculum, offering students broad knowledge and varied experiences in the family and consumer economics field.

Formerly referred to as home economics, family and consumer economics has made considerable changes in order to accommodate differences in modern society and family structures. Because more women have entered the workforce and are responsible for providing income, most family and consumer science courses have shifted toward teaching skills that can be used in home management and that can also be applied in work environments. Skills taught in both Apparel Design and Foods and Nutrition are valuable life skills, beneficial and applicable to everyday life situations.

Traditionally, classes teaching basic home economic skills have had higher female enrollment, but that is no longer true in today's family and consumer economics courses. Some aspects of the program draw more females, but others, such as culinary arts, usually have an evenly distributed



Walter Boyle/Staff Photographer

With twenty-two years of experience in public education, Mrs. Ren Jetton has much to offer her Apparel Design Students.

gender ratio, or often times even more male than female students.

Students are taught basic skills in each division of family and consumer economics. Apparel Design has both a level one and a level two course. In the level one course, subject matter ranges from career opportunities in clothing design to basic skills in clothing construction techniques. The level two course consists of an extension in clothing construction techniques and a more directed focus on the fashion industry.

Food and Nutrition courses help students to become familiar with equipment and common ingredients involved in meal preparation, as well as basic math skills for simple tasks such as reducing or increasing

the number of servings in a recipe. "Though Food and Nutrition is a lab class, students must also learn material about nutrition and specific foods before experimenting with techniques for preparation," commented Mrs. Cook, Foods and Nutrition instructor at South.

Mrs. June Cook was an active participant in the 4-H organization, where she became interested in home economics. She obtained her undergraduate degree in Home Economics from Indiana University and her masters degree from Purdue University. She then taught in Indiana, Illinois, and New Jersey before moving to North Carolina where she became a substitute teacher at South. She now teaches full time. "It's been

fun to have my own classroom again," she said.

Mrs. Ren Jetton, instructor of Apparel Design at South, attended the University of North Carolina at Greensboro and majored in Home Economics Education, though her interest lies mainly in clothing design. In addition to twenty-two years of public school teaching, she has taught at Central Piedmont Community College and has traveled the United States teaching embroidery classes at seminars.

The family and consumer economics program utilizes many laboratory facilities that allow students the opportunity to expand their newly mastered skills with hands-on practice and activities. The Foods and

Nutrition classroom contains four kitchen models, which are very similar to the kitchens found in homes, while the Culinary Arts department has access to a brand new institutional cooking facility equipped for food production. Apparel design courses use a clothing lab with eighteen sewing machines, all of which are less than three years old, and a scanner is used to transfer students' computerized designs to embroidered fabric designs.

The family and consumer economics program at South has undergone major expansion in the past few years. "Six years ago, the entire FACS department, with the exception of Mrs. Bartholomew, was staffed with teachers new to South. We worked very hard to establish three career pathways: Apparel Design, Culinary Arts and Hospitality, and Early Childhood Education. Many of these available courses are a blending of knowledge and skills taught in other classes," said Mrs. Jetton.

The Career Pathways provide an introduction to some of the higher level courses students will later find available in college, and allow students to gain valuable experience in their areas of interest.

"The family and consumer economics program has much to offer students, whether they are college bound, will study at a technical school or if they plan to enter the job market immediately following graduation," remarks Mrs. Jetton. "Through this program, students can gain valuable job experience and skills by working in supervised job situations or internships while still in high school."

A *fraid You're Pregnant?*
We're Ready To Help.

Free Pregnancy Testing

Confidential Counseling

Select Medical Services

Post Abortion Counseling

24-hour Crisis Hotline

Charlotte Pregnancy Care
1311 East Morehead Street • 372-5981

*Answers to Senior Mysteries:
Kelley Palmer and Adam Dawson*



**Hannaford Plaza
Shopping Center**

Fax 543-9846

An Evening



of Elegance



A Final Farewell From the Class of 1999

Remember When....

- *There was High School Success
- *The macho senior men of today were thrown into bushes a mere four years ago
- *Cruising the Arbo was cool
- *We were scared to lay a foot on the senior patio
- *Jerry Berry Vocabulary
- *There were Humanities classes
- *Mr. Payne and Mr. Baldwin made fun of us
- *Only Seniors parked in the upper lot
- *We had to make the hike from the lower lot every morning
- *The Main office was in E-Building
- *We didn't need a "Potty" Escort
- *We first heard "What are we here for?"
- *Graduation was in the morning
- *We had exam exemptions
- *A police line was created around C-building after the chemical spill
- *There was Senior Sleep-In
- *Food was at Arcade Day
- *Dr. Knox came
- *DECA didn't have an R on the end of it
- *The cafeteria was robbed
- *We were able to get through the walkways without running into a sophomore
- *Park Road was 45 mph
- *We got out of class for Student Council speeches
- *Homeroom was every week
- *We had lock-out
- *There were no ABC's
- *Ms. Sears and Ms. Moore were teachers
- *Freshmen didn't dress like they came out of *Clueless*
- *Mr. Boykin ate a bologna sandwich

By J.T. Crook
Sports Co-Editor

To Mrs. Berry, I thank you for inspiring me to be a better student and a better person. To Mrs. McLean, I thank you for pushing me beyond my expectations of myself. To Mrs. Farrar, I thank you for being patient as I struggled to learn from you. To Mr. Pressley, I thank you for taking extra time to help me learn about something I love. To my

what we have learned we can do the things that we have all dreamed of all our lives. A man once told me that life is like a book that one writes with actions and illustrates with deeds. For those of us leaving South Meck a chapter in that book is now closing and a new one is about to begin. This book is the greatest masterpiece that can ever be written and that we are the greatest authors the world has ever known.

By Megan McKnight
Centerspread Editor

Everyone always says remember these years, because they are the best times of our lives. Well, looking back, I can say that they are right. The four years I have spent here have been filled with friends, laughter, and the occasional homework assignment. I remember being a freshman, scared and intimidated of the school, teachers, and especially

could not wait to get out of high school. Today, we realize that these are the best years of our lives and we must treasure them always. Yesterday, we counted down the final days to graduation. Today, we throw our caps high as graduates. To my friends, teachers, and family, I loved you yesterday, still do today, and will forever.

Natalie Smith
Staff Reporter

We never intended for South Meck to become our second home. We never meant for our classmates to become like brothers and sisters. We never expected our teachers or coaches to become our heroes. We never thought the time would come when we would miss the simple things we see and do everyday.

We would have never believed we would achieve all that we did. We never knew we were capable of such stupidity and such brilliance.

We never thought we would learn so much more about life than reading and arithmetic. We never imagined that here, we'd fall in love and learn the meaning of hate. We never appreciated how much South really was the foundation for our future.

We never realized that four years could pass so quickly....

Goodbye and best wishes Class of 1999.



1998-99 Sabres' Blade Seniors: top row, Nate Morabito, Walter Boyle, Jessica Ambrose, Nicole Ewing, J.T. Crook, Andrew Buchert, Chris O'Connor; seated, Megan McKnight and Natalie Smith.

friends, I thank you for helping me through four years of high school and for making me laugh. I have learned a lot at South. I learned how to integrate functions, balance a chemical equation, and the effects of *Acid* on the mind. But after I have forgotten all of these things, I will remember that I made my best friends at South and that life is what you make of it. Our lives will lead us in different directions after we leave high school, but we will all share the lessons that we learned and the friendships that began here. Congratulations Class of 1999, they saved the best for last.

By Walter Boyle
Staff Photographer

The journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step. For some of us that step has hardly been taken and for others of us the journey is nearly over. It seems as though just yesterday we took our first steps into South Meck and now just a few short weeks away we will be making our last. The time we have spent here has been an experience that none of us is likely to forget. The things that we can do and the things that we will accomplish after we leave South Meck are unimaginable. Whether one of us will become the next president or Microsoft CEO is yet to be determined. But one thing is for sure, with

By Nathan Morabito
Sports Co-Editor

"Oh how the years go by, oh how the years bring tears to my eyes." As I prepare to "Sail Away" from South into "A Whole New World," I will never forget these last four years and those people who were there throughout them. During my stay at South, "I've Had the Time of My Life," you could even say that I've felt like a "Cheeseburger in Paradise" who was just trying to "Take it Easy." But unfortunately, now it's time to "Say Goodbye." I could not have made it through these last four years without "A Little Help From My Friends." And to all those friends who have been with me through the good times and the bad, "I'll Be Missing You." Going to college is just part of "The Circle of Life," but sadly enough, leaving comes with emotions. But "Don't Worry, Be Happy," even though "That's just the way it is, things will never be the same," we are all going on to do bigger and better things. "I Will Survive" this change in my life, but South, "I Will Remember You." To all my fellow students, I would like to leave you with this truth of life, "There's No Greater Power Than The Power of Goodbye." May your scholastic adventure be as exciting and wonderful as mine. "In the end, only kindness matters."

the seniors. As a sophomore, I was more comfortable in my role as a Sabre. When junior year rolled around I eagerly anticipated my senior year, convinced homework would be a thing of the past, and coming late and leaving early would be commonplace. I was wrong. Now as a senior I am looking forward to going off to college and becoming a Tar Heel, but I know it will be a sad parting because it will never be this way again.

Thanks to all of my teachers, family, and especially my great friends who helped make my high school experience the best it could be.

By Nicole Ewing
Business Manager

Yesterday, we took our first steps at South, timid and shy, just trying to get through the day without singing or experiencing a run-in with a bush. Today, we take our final steps away from South, wiser and confident, ready to become adults. Yesterday, I wrote articles that informed. Today, I am writing an article to say goodbye. Yesterday, I was a South Meck Sabre. Today, I am a Penn State Nittany Lion. Yesterday, we anticipated prom, spring break, and homecoming. Today, they are merely pictures and memories to tell our children years from now. Yesterday, we

By Chris O'Connor
Staff Reporter

As we approach the home stretch of the long four year race that we have run, I see all of the people and things from South that are important to me and I realize that I may never see them again. This makes me see how special the last four years have been.

We have survived the race and cleared many hurdles along the way like Jerry Berry Vocabulary, the "House of Payne", humanities projects, and even the feared senior exit project. My best memories of South are my experiences as part of the Cross Country team. Although we have had many ups and downs, will never forget how we defied the odds to win the conference championship.

Now it's just a quick sprint to the finish line and the race will be over. We will go on to train for bigger races with stronger competition. I am looking forward to starting a new race not as a Sabre, but as a Carolina Tar Heel. I am ready to move on, but I will always remember my times at South.

Good luck Class of 1999!

Senior Page layout by Megan McKnight and Nicole Ewing

Oh, the Places We Will Go...

Laura Abernathy- UNC-CH
Lukas Abplanalp- UNCC
Joshua Acuff- UNCC
Ashley Aldrich- Appalachian
Demarius Alexander-
Winthrop
Matt Allen-Appalachian
Sara Althof- UNCC
Jessica Ambrose- Appalachian
Sumathi Ananthakrishnan-
NCSU
Gregory Arent- Appalachian
Michael Arrigo- NCSU
Lilia Arteaga- CPCC
Damien Artis- Military
Demario Baker- Johnson &
Whales University
Michael Ballenger- NCSU
Mona Banawan- UNCC
Candice Baucom- CPCC
Jennifer Beale- UNCC
Neyla Benevidas-CPCC
Brian Benfer- NCSU
Elizabeth Berry- UNC-CH
Crissy Berst- Appalachian
Brad Bethards-Georgia South-
ern
Brian Bethards-Georgia
Southern
Shannon Biggers- CPCC
Roger Blanton-CPCC
Brian Boger- CPCC
Dustin Bolton-UNCC
Brian Bonney-CPCC
John Bowman-NCSU
Walter Boyle- NCSU
Rebecca Bradish- UNCG
Allison Bridges- WCU
Danielle Brisky-NCSU
Julie Brown-Presbyterian
Nursing School
April Bryant-Mercy School of
Nursing
Timothy Briant-CPCC
Andrew Buchert- NCSU
Jeffery Burger- Savannah
College of Art & Design
Jeremy Burke- UNC-CH
Conswella Burris- CPCC
Vivian Bynoe- Bennet College
Asa Caldwell- CPCC
Shatona Carson-Carolina
Beauty College
Christopher Carter-ECU
Anthony Caruso-CPCC
Mimi Cha- Hunter College
Matthew Chaney- UNCC
David Chubb- Appalachian
David Church-CPCC
Toni Cipolla- WCU
Jordan Clark- UNCC
Katherine Cooney- USC
Mike Corigliano-NCSU
Adam Cox- NCSU
Tareeka Cox-UNCG
Joey Cristian- NCSU
JT Crook- NCSU
Ericka Daniels-UNCC
Jacqueline Dautel- NCSU
Aeron Davis- ECU
Joshua Davis- CPCC
Kristi Davis-UNCW
Adam Dawson- UNC-CH
Zach DeLeo- NCSU
Anita Desai- UNCG
Ketan Desai- NCSU
Kevin DeShields- Lee Univer-
sity
Nathan Deviney-CPCC
Eric Dewey- NCSU
Marian Diperna- Oberlin
College
Andy Dizio- Pennsylvania
State University
Nitsa Doulaveris-Kings
College
David Duncan- Appalachian

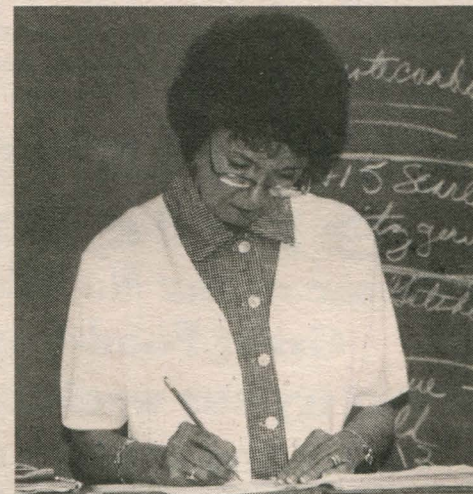
Allison Eargle- Meredith
Jay Early- Appalachian
Jason Edwards- Furman
William Elam- UNC-Chapel
Hill
Nicholas Elliott-CPCC
Whitney Ellsworth- Appala-
chian
Brett Emmerton- USMC
Kristin Epps- Appalachian
Doug Ernsberger- UNCW
Lamaro Ervin-NC A&T
Nicole Ewing- Pennsylvania
State University
Shannon Farrell- CPCC
Laura Faulkenberry-CPCC
Steven Feldberg-CPCC
Jodie Fenton- Brigham Young
Amy Field- Appalachian
Sheila Findall- Queens
Josh Fisher- UNCC
Kelly Flaviani- Appalchian
Ryan Fleetwood- USMC
Danielle Flowers- Lees-MeRae
Camille Foster- NC A&T
Emily Foster- UNCC
Mark Fox- WCU
Marja Franklin-UNCG
Kimberly Freeze- WCU
Nicole Fugit-CPCC
Will Gamble-Cape Fear
Community College
Rick Garner- NCSU
Jenifer Garrett- NCSU
Lakisha Garris-Livingstone
Larry Garris-Kings College
Tory Geiger- NCSU
Andrea Gentry- UNCC
Steven Geohagan- CPCC
Lisa Gerald-NCSU
Courtney Gerardi- IBaylor
University
Todd Gibson- Appalchian
Matt Glunt-UNCC
Paul Godbold- WCU
Keko Gomes-CPCC
Christopher Grassi- High
Point University
Brian Greyson-Appalchian
Amy Griffith- UNCC
Dana Grim- Appalachian
Carrie Grissom- Appalachian
Andrew Gunn-UNCW
Nick Gustin-NCSU
Cheri Hand- CPCC
Erinn Harris- Wake Forest
Graves Haynes- UNCG
Elizabeth Heath- UNC-CH
Robert Henderson- CPCC
Rachel Hockfield- UNC-CH
Colin Hoggard- Appalachian
Ashley Holt- UNCC
Jordan Houston- NCSU
Naoma Howard- High Point
University
William Howard-UNCG
Brent Hudgins- CPCC
Michelle Hudson- CPCC
Shannon Hurleigh- Oklahoma
City University
Ahmed Ismail- UNCC
Lawanda Jackson- CPCC
Amber Jewell- CPCC
Nadia Jilani- UNCG
Peter Johnstone- NCSU
Chris Jolly- UNCC
Mike Kang- Georgia Tech
Colleen Kelly- Appalachian
Mark Kelly- WCU
Thomas Kenyon- UNCC
James Kimball- UNC-CH
Dena King- NCSU
Laura Kirby- Elon
Christopher Kirk- NCSU
Hemina Kumar- UNCC
Chieh Kuo- UNCC
Lauren Laganis- Appalachian

Diandra Land- NCA&T
James Landivar- UNC-CH
Stehpen Lapham- CPCC
Clark Larson- UNC-Asheville
Jephennueh Lawrence- NCSU
Sueng Lee- CPCC
Justin Lenarcic- UNC-CH
Josh LeQuire- UNC-CH
Mary Little- UNCG
Josh Loftin- NCSU
Christina Long- CPCC
Justin Long- ECU
Michelle Love- Appalachian
Taro Machida- Ringling School
of Art and Design
Natalie Mahler- Ricks College
Jeanne Mandrapilias- UNCC
Paul Marion- CPCC
Jennifer Martelle- UGA
Christina Martin- College of
Charleston
Travis Martin- Appalachian
Sarah Mason- UNC-CH
Alex Masse'- University of
Miami
Brian Mathias- College of
Charleston
Courtney McBride- UNCC
Amber McCloskey- Randolph
College of Photography
Ian McConnell- UNC-CH
Tripp McCoy- UNCC
Meagan McCrystle- Boston U.
Wade McGinnis- Appalachian
Jennifer McKeag- Appalachian
Laurel McKnight- UNC-CH
Megan McKnight- UNC-CH
George McQuain- UNCG
Nicole Meade- NCSU
Amin Mehrizi- NCSU
Reena Mehta- ECU
Tithal Mehta- ECU
Kate Meier- NCSU
Christina Miller- Appalachian
Melody Milroy- NCSU
Darren Mitchell- UNCC
Cory Mohnacky- Montreat
College
Crystal Moore- JCSU
Mondahji Moore- CPCC
Rebecca Moore- Mercyhurst
College
Nathan Morabito- Syracuse
University
Quavis Morgan- Queens
College or NCA&T
Jeffrey Morris- UNCC
Deanna Morse- CPCC
Brooke Moser- Appalachian
Katie Moss- USC
Mindy Mullis- CPCC/UNCC
Gary Murray- CPCC/Johnson
& Whales
Demonte Myers- CPCC
Susan Nelson- Winston Salem
State
Laura Noethiger- UNCC
Kara Norton- Appalachian
Nathaniel Nusz- Appalachian
Chris O'Connor- UNC-CH
Stacey Oliva- CPCC
Eric Olshan- UNC-CH
Amanda Orr- Appalachian
Megan Orrell- NCSU
Daniel Osborne- NCSU
Riina Paavilainen- UNC-CH
Mike Page- UNC-CH
Crystal Palmer- UNCC
Kelley Palmer- Denison
University
Blair Parker- NCSU
John Patrick- Appalachian
Ayana Pearman- CPCC
Meredith Perry- UNC-Chapel
Hill
Melanie Pfeifer- UNC-Chapel
Hill

Shenna Phifer- CPCC
Ian Pickett- ECU
Monique Pittman- Pfeiffer
University and Queens
Pete Plolitis- CPCC
Suneel Potiny- UNC-CH
Ashley Prendergast- Appala-
chian
Lindsey Pritchard- ECU
Emily Queen- ECU
Jesse Rademacher- NCSU
Wiley Randolph- CPCC
Katie Rankin- UNC-CH
Amanda Reed- WCU
Carlos Rembert- Johnson and
Whales
Bonnie Rich- UNCW
Brian Rickelton- NCSU
Andrew Riebe- The Citadel
Vera Rizzardi- Appalachian
Joey Roane- NCSU
Kyle Robinson- Morehouse
Nicole Robinson- UNCC
Reginald Robinson- Wingate
or Methodist
Taylor Robinson- Appalachian
Kim Rogers- UNCW
Montee Rogers- Norfolk State
University
Kimberly Roof- UNCC
Whitney Rothrock- Appala-
chian
Justin Russell- ECU
Phillip Russo- NCSU
Thomas Rutkowski- Emory
and Henry
Emily Ryan- UNC-CH
Heather Sakaduski- Lees-
McRay
Jeffery Sakakini- Appalachian
Marcius Sanders- Western
Carolina
Michael Sanders- UNCG
Erin Sattizahn- WCU
Johnathan Sauzier- UNCW
Monica Scheidt- ECU
Amanda Schuetzle- CPCC
Annye Scrogam- Wingate
Michael Scrudato- CPCC
Derek Severson- Georgia
Southern
Amanda Shinn- Western
Carolina
Aliria Sibaja- Devry
Misti Simpson- Appalachian
Allison Sitar- UNCC

Donnie Smith- CPCC
Julie Smith- Appalachian
Megan Smith- UNC-Chapel
Hill
Natalie Smith- Queens
Sarah Smith- Duke
Sharon Smith- CPCC
Sarah Snyder- Ywam DTS
(missions)
Tyler Snyder- Appalachian
Christin Soliman- UNCC
Lorenzo Southern- Western
Carolina
Brian Spaulding- NCSU
Meredith Spyker- CPCC
Kevin Stallings- Appalachian
Michael Staton- UNC- CH
Bethany Sterling- UNCG
Montrice Stitt- CPCC
Johnny Stradford- Wingate
Matt Surratt- UNCC
Monica Swartzlanter- UNCG
Erik Sweeny- ECU
Ashley Taylor- UNC-CH
Tom Taylor- UNCC
Bryan Thompson- CPCC
Lisa Thompson- UNC-CH
Dameko Thorpe- NC A&T
Cara Tompkins- Kings
Brock Towler- UNC-CH
Hadley Trotter- Duke
Amanda Truman- UNCC
Angela Tyler- CPCC
Ariel Urena- NCSU
Karen Van Ruitenbeek-
Appalachian
Stephanie Vandelinde- ECU
Cliff Venable- Appalachian
Jan Vesely- UNCC
Stacey Vrochotiky- Bradely U.
Athan Vrettos- UNC-CH
Scott Wallat- U. of Tennessee
Marcus Walton- The Citadel
Ryan Watson- UNC-CH
Elizabeth Weeks- UNCC
Marie White- CPCC
Ricardo Willems- UNC-CH
Lastasia Williams- CPCC
Anna Williamson- UNC-
Chapel Hill
Scott Wilson- UNC-CH
Stephen Withrow- UNCC
Corey Wood- CPCC
Aruanita Wynn- CPCC
Marie Yeung- NCSU

*This 1998-99 Senior Page is dedicated to our
loving and caring adviser, Mrs. Jerry Berry.
The seniors of the 1998-1999 Sabres' Blade staff
wish to thank Mrs. Berry for all of her hard
work and support to The Sabres' Blade. You
have been invaluable to us and we will miss you
next year!*



Faces in the Crowd

Claresa Simmons: An involved junior who is bound to make an impression in the next millenium

By Nicole Ewing
Business Manager

"I want to make the Senior Class of 2000 a class that will never be forgotten," said Claresa Simmons, a future member of the 1999-2000 South Meck senior class council. This involved junior is very excited about the upcoming year, and is bound to make an impression in the next millennium.

Besides being elected to student council by her peers, Claresa is also busy with various other clubs at South, including Sisters With Vision, Peaceful Sabres, Beta Club, National Honor Society, and Spanish Honor Society. She is also the secretary of NAACP. Claresa definitely has her work cut out for her next year, but she is prepared for any challenges she may face. She lives by her own advice that she gives to active students, "Stay organized and



Walter Boyle/Staff Photographer

In CD player: Mariah Carey's Butterfly
Food she can't live without: Chicken
Best Movie: Rush Hour
Never missed TV show: Dawson's Creek
Favorite Subject: Math

only do things if you are prepared for the consequences that come with being involved."

She also enjoys singing and is a member of Women's Chamber Choir and Concert Choir. Her high GPA and class-load of AP and AG classes reflect a student who enjoys being challenged in her academics. Although she is undecided on what college she plans to attend, Clarissa wants to major in Communications and minor in music. Her Spanish teacher, Ms. Saxon said, "I have been with her for two years. She is a smart, excellent student, full of energy and very graceful."

Because Claresa is planning a career in broadcast journalism, it is fitting that her role model is the successful television journalist, Oprah. "She is what I want to be in the future," she said, "Oprah is a successful female journalist and a very positive person."

Should the United States be actively involved in the internal affairs of foreign countries?

"We need to show the Serbs that they cannot mistreat human life in such a manner."

Steven Harmaty, Grade 9

"As a world power the U.S. must assure the protection of basic human rights."

Brendan McHugh, Grade 11

"We shouldn't waste our tax dollars when we could fix the many problems we have in our country."

Brock Freyer, Grade 9

"If we don't help them, eventually their problems will be our own."

Jason Caldwell, Grade 10

"We should only worry about the safety of our country and people, not other countries."

Heath Spivey, Grade 9

"In Kosovo people were killed and kicked out of their homes simply because of their ethnic background. The U.S. cannot and will not stand for this type of genocide."

Joshua Peeler, Grade 12

"One day we may need some assistance from another country and they'll be able to return the favor."

Koren Hart, Grade 11

"The U.S. does not have anything to do with what goes on in other countries. They should be able to handle their own problems."

Lakeesha Taylor, Grade 10

"Before we intervene with other countries' problems, we, as the United States, need to take care of our own. Kosovo is not our concern; it is a civil dispute. We have already experienced this in our country and we don't need it again."

Hy'sona Ross, Grade 11

Lindsey Wilfley: An accomplished student who stands above her peers in more ways than one

By Megan McKnight
Centerspread Editor

You have probably noticed junior Lindsey Wilfley because she stands out above the crowd - literally. At 5'11 she is above her peers in more ways than height. Lindsey doesn't mind being tall, though. She says it makes her different; she gets a different perspective on things that most people don't get to see. But that is just one of the things that make her special. Lindsey is currently number three in her class and is involved in such courses as Chemistry II AP and English AP. As an accomplished student, Lindsey plans to go to Duke to become a pediatrician because she "really likes biology, medicine, and kids." She spends a lot of her free time baby-sitting and doing volunteer work for children.

Besides her academics, Lindsey is a proud member of



Walter Boyle/Staff Photographer

Favorite Food: Strawberries
In CD player: Shania Twain
Birthday: Sept 21, 1982
Preferred Color: Green
Zodiac Sign: Virgo

National Honor Society, Beta Club, Spanish Honor Society, and HOSA, and she is the vice president of Civitan. She is also an accomplished athlete, playing JV basketball as a sophomore and softball for 3 consecutive years. Lindsey is actively involved in her youth group and is on the Charlotte Presbyterian Youth Council.

When Lindsey isn't running around doing her various activities, she likes to just kick back and hang out with her friends. "I admire the hard work and dedication she puts into everything she does," said friend Melanie Pfeifer.

Lindsey says her dad has been her inspiration because "he encourages me to study hard and get good grades."

Whether it is helping kids, studying, or playing sports, Lindsey Wilfley does it and does it well.

Quincy's Steakhouse

"Home of the No Mistake Steak."

Great Food-Low Price.

Also try our weekend breakfast buffet and regular daily buffet.

DON'T FORGET ABOUT OUR
"BIG FAT YEAST ROLLS!"

7671 Pineville-Mathews Rd.
Carmel Commons • 542-8597



GIANT SIZE
SUBMARINES
& SALADS
"Experience It!"

Now Hiring at 3 Area Locations

HANNAFORD PLAZA

10110 Johnston Rd., Suite 14
Charlotte, NC 28226
CALL AHEAD

543-3133
FAX IN YOUR ORDER
543-6699

Good luck Class of 1999!

Big East is proven to be the best

Well, I was wrong. I made a mistake and now I have to suffer the consequences. I made a promise to my fellow Sports Co-Editor to write a retraction if a Big East team won the national championship and I will hold up my end of the bargain. Duke disappointed me. I thought that they had more potential, more heart, and more fire than any other team in the nation. They had an experienced senior guard to lead them, an All-American center to control the middle and an outstanding point guard to direct them all. They had a deep bench and a coach that will go down as the third-best coach in NCAA history (after John Wooden and Jim Valvano). But they disappointed me.

I do not think the game was an upset. I did not think that Duke would have an easy time in playing Connecticut. With great team speed and depth, the Huskies were the most dangerous team in college basketball this year. They held the number one ranking for more weeks than any other team this season. Their transition game was so well executed and fast that they could and did run over most of

Sabres win second consecutive conference championship

South in search of first state title in ten years

By Nathan Morabito
Sports Co-Editor

After a strong regular season, the Sabre baseball squad attained one of the main goals of their season by winning the Southwestern 4A conference championship. The Sabres, who are ranked sixteenth in the Charlotte Observer sweet sixteen with 19 victories and only seven defeats, beat the Providence Panthers on Saturday, May 8, at Myers Park by a final score of 9-2. South Meck tied with Butler for the Southwestern 4A regular season title after playing the Panthers twice during the regular season and beating them both times.

Pitching has been a key factor this year for South Meck, with Corey Wood and Matt Lockrem having phenomenal seasons, and pitching once again helped the Sabres secure an impressive win. Matt Lockrem was able to pitch a four hitter with Providence only scoring two runs. The excellent pitching performance was followed by a powerful offensive lineup who scored nine runs off of Providence pitcher John Taylor. Key hitters included DeRon



Walter Boyle / Staff Photographer

Coach Hal Bagwell leads a strong Sabre team in the race for their first state championship since 1989.

Chase and Evan Kalczuk who both lead the team in batting average.

Winning the Southwestern 4A championship is not enough for Coach Bagwell's team. "We have high goals. We won't be satisfied until we get to the state finals and get our shot," he said. They have got their sights on at

least making it to the finals, if not winning it all. They enter the state playoffs as the number one seed in their division. South won their first playoff game last Tuesday by beating Lumberton by a score of 3-2. The Sabres will play the majority of their games at home and will need fan support.

Jordan considers purchasing Hornets

Could the possible purchase of the Charlotte Hornets by Michael Jordan have been the biggest event that has happened in Charlotte in numerous years? Think about it, the sports teams of Charlotte have never been consistently good, and these teams have not had fan support in these last few years. In numerous other cities, major sports are not only large money making events, but they also bring these cities some recreation. We all know that Charlotte is not the most eventful place in the country. We have sports teams but they are not contenders. How do we solve this problem?

We already tried by placing rapper Percy Miller (Master P.) on the Hornet's roster, but unfortunately he was not that good. Sure he lured thousands of fans to the Charlotte Coliseum to watch scrimmages, but after he was cut, these fans seemed to disappear. Because of this, the Hornets did realize something, publicity can help gain support.

What better way to gain support than by having the great Michael Jordan purchase half ownership of the Charlotte

J. T. Crook

Sports Commentary

the teams that they played this year. But what led them to the national championship was an undefeatable will that Duke simply did not have. Connecticut beat Duke because they knew that they could. The Huskies deserved to win the game.

Now, to the business at hand. I was proven wrong this season. The ACC had a lackluster year. The UNC Tarheels did not live up to their potential, again. Maryland, for all of their talent, could never put together enough wins to actually be considered a major threat for the title. With disappointing losses against Chapel Hill in the ACC tournament and St. John's in the NCAA tournament, Maryland failed to live up to their number five preseason ranking. Virginia, Georgia Tech, N.C. State, Florida State and Clemson were all hapless enough to create self-doubt in any long-time ACC fan. Wake Forest did improve and nearly reached the tournament this year but were again reminded that life after Tim Duncan is not so easy. So, as I look to next year, I will take the words of fans of losing teams around the nation in saying maybe we won't be quite so bad next year.

Editor's note: This commentary is intended to serve as a retraction of the writer's column entitled "Nothing compares to the ACC," which ran in the December issue of The Sabres' Blade.

Lady Sabres hold top spot in conference

By Laura King
Staff Reporter

With five games remaining on their schedule, the women's soccer team here at South boasts a successful record of 13 wins, 2 losses and 1 tie. They post an admirable record of 8-1 against competitive Southwestern 4A opponents. This year represents South's best showing since the 1996 season. Currently ranked 6th in the state, the Sabres were recently tied with North Meck for the top spot in the Charlotte Observer's Sweet Sixteen. South Meck twice defeated a team with a number one ranking: Charlotte Catholic, by a score of 3-2, and Myers Park, by a score of 2-1. Throughout the season they have outscored their opponents 63-14; the Sabres register an average of nearly four goals per game.

South's success this season can be attributed to the entire team; widespread talent and

depth have been the defining characteristics of the Sabres in 1999. The defense has consistently made strong showings, led by senior sweeper Sheila Findall. They are backed by a nine-shutout performance by junior goalkeeper Emma Juncadella; Emma and senior Karen vanRuitenbeck have combined forces to allow opponents a mere .875 goals per game. Seniors Hadley Trotter and Heather Sakaduski have each netted 14 goals, and the Sabres' offense is sparked by strong play in the midfield by Allison Maul, Jenny Martelle, Monique Pittman, and Laura King. Numerous players have made significant improvement since the 1998 season, most notably Tiffany Corbell, Mary Tricebock, Laura King, and Sheila Findall. The team's talent gives Coach Lynch high hopes for the state playoffs, for which the Sabres have already secured a high seed. "We're proud of our accomplishments

to this point, but now we want to focus on winning the conference championship." South is currently locked in a three-way tie for first place with rivals Myers Park and Providence.

The Sabres hope to have another successful season in 2000, despite the loss of many seniors to graduation. Sheila Findall and Heather Sakaduski plan to continue their soccer careers on scholarship, Sheila at Queens College and Heather at Lees-McRae. In addition, Jenny Martelle plans to try out for the varsity squad at the University of Georgia, and Hadley Trotter is considering the possibility of walking on at Duke University. Numerous returning players ensure success next year, and younger players, such as freshman Terry Fisher and sophomores Mary Tricebock, Gabby Schwarze and Grace Pittman, promise long-term success. Good luck to the women's soccer team both in their run for a state title and in the future.

Nathan Morabito

Sports Commentary

Hornets. If this did occur, everybody would have been a fan. Sure, he would not of played, but he would have been watching in the stands, where he would of made the right decisions to better run the basketball team. The Hornets would then have an owner who actually knew basketball, and one who knew what players to sign and those not to sign. It's just like saying, "If Michael Jordan eats Wheaties, then I should," "If Michael Jordan supports the Hornets, then I should." That could have been the key to save this franchise.

Slowly the Hornets would have gained more support and basketball would have returned as an exciting thing to do in Charlotte. After time, the fans would have realized that with their help, Charlotte sports teams could once again be on the national map of superior sports teams. All that it would of took is one signature on a check and Charlotte would have returned as a sports town once again.

Fall Sport Tryout dates:

Soccer	8/1
Football	8/1
Cross Country	8/1
Volleyball	8/1
Lady's Tennis	8/9



The Book Rack



- Science Fiction
- Mystery
- Romance
- Childrens Books
- Magazines
- New Paperbacks 20% off

Thousands of Used Paperbacks
at 1/2 Price
Trade Yours For Credit

544-8006

Monday-Friday 11:00-7:00

McMullen Creek Market
8326 Pineville-Matthews Rd.

Saturday 10:00-6:00



Senior Mysteries



By Nicole Ewing
Business Manager

This senior mystery is an outspoken diva who is hard to miss around the halls of South Meck. After pulling into the senior lot in her burgandy Ford Escort, she begins her school day with a difficult classload including AP and AG classes, along with marketing and clothing design. She is also involved in many clubs, such as Interkeys, NAACP, SWV, and Gospel Choir, of which she is vice-president. Following her days as a Sabre, she will attend Clark Atlanta University, where she hopes to study occupational therapy. Got a clue who she is? Either ask her good friends Dena or Deanna, or check out page 5 for the answer.



By Nathan Morabito
Sports Co-Editor

If you've ever seen this senior mystery around school, you probably thought he was carrying a purse. However, this bag is a camera tote, which he never leaves home without. This senior has been a photographer for Somecka for the last year and a half, and has participated in numerous clubs, including DECA, National Honor Society, and Beta club. After school, he can be found in Mrs. Miklos' room, the tennis courts, or four-wheeling in his white Grand Cherokee. Big Pappa Pump, as his friends call him, stands out from the crowd because of his almost white hair and his Chicago accent. Still confused? Turn to Page 5 for the answer.

Looking forward to the future...

Summer Reading List 1999

English 9 AG: *Lord of the Flies* (William Golding), *Hunchback of Notre Dame* (Victor Hugo)
English 9 Adv: *Hunchback of Notre Dame* (Victor Hugo)
English 9 Reg: *They Cage the Animals at Night* (Jennings Burch)

English 10 AG: *The Count of Monte Cristo*-Abridged version (Alexandre Dumas), *Night* (Elie Wiesel), *Beneath the Wheel* (Hermann Hesse)
English 10 Adv: *The Count of Monte Cristo*-Abridged version (Alexandre Dumas), *Night* (Elie Wiesel)
English 10 Reg: *Night* (Elie Wiesel)

English 11 AP: See reading options.
English 11 AG and Paideia English 11 AG: *The Education of Little Tree* (Forrest Carter), *Inherit the Wind* (Jerome Lawrence and Robert E. Lee), *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* (Mark Twain)
English 11 Adv: *The Education of Little Tree* (Forrest Carter), *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* (Mark Twain)
English 11 Reg: *The Education of Little Tree* (Forrest Carter)

English 12 AP: See reading options.
English 12 AG: Select two of the following titles: *Frankenstein* (Mary Shelley), *1984* (George Orwell), *Handmaid's Tale* (Margaret Atwood), *Pride and Prejudice* (Jane Austen), *To the Lighthouse* (Virginia Woolfe), *The French Lieutenant's Woman* (John Fowles), *Cry, the Beloved Country* (Alan Paton)
English 12 Adv: *Frankenstein* (Mary Shelley), *1984* (George Orwell) OR *Brave New World* (Aldous Huxley)
English 12 Reg: *Frankenstein* (Mary Shelley), *1984* (George Orwell)

Rising juniors enrolled in the Advanced Placement English Language course for the academic year of 1999-00 are required to read two works over the summer as preparation for the class. Students are also required to maintain reading journals as they complete their reading of one of their books. Reading journals are due the first day of school. Read the other book for enjoyment and in preparation for an essay question on it the first week of school.

Rising seniors enrolled in the Advanced Placement English Literature course for the academic year 1999-00 are required to read three works from the following list. Students are asked to complete a Major Works Data Sheet for each of the three books on their summer reading. In addition to the Major Works Data Sheet, AP students will write an AP prompt for each novel during the first three weeks of classes.

Romanticism

Nathaniel Hawthorne *The Scarlet Letter*
Herman Melville *Moby Dick*
Ayn Rand *The Fountainhead*

Transcendentalism

Henry David Thoreau *Walden*

Realism

Mark Twain *Huckleberry Finn*

Naturalism

Stephen Crane *Red Badge of Courage*
Theodore Dreiser *An American Tragedy*
Ernest Hemingway *The Sun Also Rises*
John Steinbeck *Grapes of Wrath*

Modern

Maya Angelou *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*
Ray Bradbury *Fahrenheit 451*
Mary Higgins Clark *The Cradle Will Fall*
A Stranger is Watching
Ralph Ellison *Invisible Man*
Tony Hillerman *People of Darkness*
Zora N. Houston *Their Eyes Were Watching God*
Carson McCullers *The Heart is a Lonely Hunter*

CHOOSE ONE WORK FROM EACH OF THE FOLLOWING CATEGORIES:

Contemporary novel:

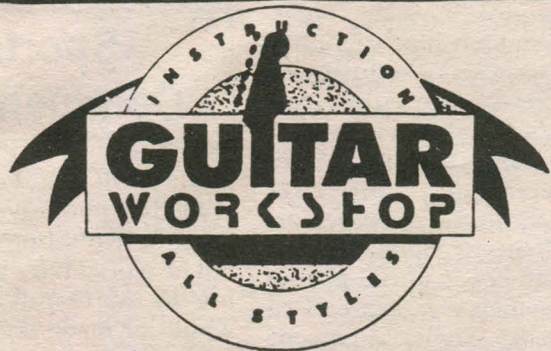
A Prayer for Owen Meany John Irving
Bless Me, Ultima Rudolfo Anaya
All the Pretty Horses Cormac McCarthy
Angela's Ashes Frank McCourt
American Pastoral Philip Roth
A Thousand Acres Jane Smiley

Classical novel:

Pride and Prejudice Jane Austen
Jude the Obscure Thomas Hardy
Jane Eyre Charlotte Bronte
Mill on the Floss George Eliot
To the Lighthouse Virginia Woolfe
Sons and Lovers D.H. Lawrence
A Passage to India E.M. Forester
Cry, the Beloved Country Alan Paton

Other voices:

1984 George Orwell
Brave New World Aldous Huxley
Handmaid's Tale Margaret Atwood
Catch 22 Joseph Heller
Slaughterhouse 5 Kurt Vonnegut
One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest Ken Kesey



704 • 372 • 1689

an educated guitarist
is a dangerous guitarist
BE DANGEROUS

2123 E. 7th St. Charlotte, NC



704-543-WOLF (9653)

8318-702 Pineville-Matthews Rd.
Charlotte, NC 28226

CRIME STOPPERS

We want your information
not your name

CRIME STOPPERS

(704)334-1600



Please support
our advertisers.